California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
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October 23, 2003

Mrs. Amy Ponzio-Belyea
Nova Techno Corporation
5901 Warner Avenue, Box 415
Huntington Beach, CA 92649-4659

NO FURTHER REQUIREMENTS – FORMER NOVA TECHNO CORPORATION FACILITY, 1368 OREGON AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90813 (SLIC NO. 0624) (SITE ID NO. 1846900)

Dear Mrs. Ponzio-Belyea:

Regional Board staff has reviewed the *Remediation of Hexavalent Chromium-Impacted Soil* dated October 1, 2003, submitted by Targhee, Inc. (Targhee) on behalf of Nova Techno Corporation (Nova Techno) for the above-referenced facility (facility). The purpose of this letter is to provide notice on whether no further requirements have been met for cleanup or investigation of the soil and groundwater beneath the facility location. Upon review of the information in our case files, residual contaminants remaining in soil, while remaining above screening levels, are protective of groundwater quality.

BACKGROUND

Nova Techno purchased the property in March 1977, and has operated the facility specializing in machining and hard chrome plating. They closed the plating operation in January 1996, and relocated to another location in 2003. The facility includes approximately 8,800 square feet of interior space and approximately 2,100 square feet of exterior space. Of the interior space, approximately 500 square feet were used for plating operations. The remainder of the structure was used for machining of parts, storage, and office space. The entire area is fenced or otherwise enclosed. The facility had three vaulted open tanks on site used for plating (two plating tanks and one rinse tank). These approximately 930-gallon tanks were constructed of concrete and lined. These tanks and surrounding hexavalent chromium contaminated soil have recently been removed. There was a small-quantity wastewater treatment system on the site and a concrete sump. Wastes generated at the facility were shipped off-site. Nova Techno used chromuim trioxide and chromic acid flake in plating operations. Due to the type of operation over an extended period of time small amounts of plating acid containing hexavalent chromium have spilled through cracks in the concrete floor of the facility and contaminated surrounding soil.

ATTACHMENT 3

The facility is located at an elevation of approximately 9 feet above mean sea level. Topography of the site vicinity is relatively flat. The property is located in the southern part of the West Coast Groundwater Basin, southeast of the Dominquez Gap Barrier Project. The Los Angeles River is located less than a quarter mile to the west of the site. The site is underlain by gravel, sand, sandy silt, silt, and clay (alluvial sediments). The presence of the nearby river and local semi-perched aquifers are taken into account with respect to this site. As well as its proximity to, but not inclusion in, an area to the west of the river that has been removed from designation as drinking water supply. Groundwater at this location has a designated beneficial use as drinking water supply in accordance with on Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) adopted on June 13, 1994. The Regional Board has designated existing beneficial uses and has established water quality objectives for the protection of these uses for groundwater and coastal water in the Basin Plan.

SOIL ASSESSMENT

On February 24 and 25, 1996, eight soil borings were sampled at 2.5, 5.0, 7.5, 10.0, and 15.0 feet below ground surface (bgs) at the site around the perimeter of the plating area by Kendall/Adams Group, Inc. A total of 33 soil samples were collected and analyzed for hexavalent chromium. The highest concentration of hexavalent chromium detected was at 36.3 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), found at 4.0 feet bgs. This investigation concluded there was a low concentration of hexavalent chromium in soil, decreasing to near non-detect at the capillary fringe. In October 1996, one HydroPunch groundwater sample was collected from a location southwest of the former plating tank area. Analytical results showed hexavalent chromium at a concentration of 558,000 micrograms per liter (µg/L). Groundwater at the site is approximately 12 to 15 feet bgs. The direction of groundwater flow was west to northwest. The HydroPunch location was downgradient of the plating tanks.

GROUNDWATER ASSESSMENT

In November 2001, Targhee installed three groundwater-monitoring wells at the site. Soil samples were taken during installation and analyzed for volatile organic compound (VOCs) and semi-volatile organic compounds by USEPA Method 8260B and 8270. Analytical data that was submitted for these soil samples showed no detectable concentrations of VOCs. For hexavalent chromium in soil, samples were taken and analyzed by USEPA Method 7199, to a depth of 15 feet bgs. These samples detected low levels for hexavalent chromium, except for 1.1 and 2.2 mg/kg at 10 and 15 feet in boring MW3. Targhee sampled the three on-site groundwater-monitoring wells on November 26, 2001, March 6, 2002, January 7, 2003, and September 4, 2003. The results for monitoring wells MW1 and MW2 were all below the California Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for total chromium and hexavalent chromium. The MCL for total chromium is 50 µg/L. The results for monitoring well MW3, located adjacent the plating tanks,